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Sent: Monday, January 23, 2006 12:52 PM
To: mlpacomments@resources.ca.gov
Cc: kfreeman@surfrider.org
Subject: MLPAComments: MLPA

Good day,

I would like to thank the Blue Ribbon Task Force for thier ongoing efforts. Certainly, there are tough choices to be made. There will undoubtedly be winners and losers by the time new restrictions are imposed. However, I have no doubts that meaningful and improved protection of the ocean through adoption of a science-based network of marine protected areas will benefit all parties in the long run.

I have been a resident of California for my entire 42 years. My home has never strayed more than 40 miles from the California coast, a very special place even today. However, California's coastal environment has been exposed to a very complex system of degradation mostly at the hands of man. The slow degrading effects of urban runoff, habitat constriction, over-fishing (or mis-management of these natural resources), and the past catostrophic effects of DDT, oil, and sewage accidents all play a role in the degraded status of today's marine environment. The numbers don't lie. Nature needs some time to rebound from what we have done, and scientists need some time to measure this rebound in a reasonably stable scientific environment. I believe the MLPA Package 2 will offer the best opportunity for both of these to occur.

Again, I thank you for your efforts.

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